SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

UPDATED 2014

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants: [help]

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals: [help]

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

A. background [help]

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: [help]

   Colockum Wildlife Area Culvert and Road Repair

2. Name of applicant: [help]

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: [help]

WDFW
600 Capital Way North
Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Marty Peoples

4. Date checklist prepared: [help]

December 4, 2014

5. Agency requesting checklist: [help]

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [help]

Summer / Fall 2015

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. [help]

No futher plans are being made for this site.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [help]

A JARPA will be prepared for this project.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain. [help]

No other applications are pending.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. [help]

Permits and approvals may include a CORPS of Engineers Section 404 Permit, a Kittitas County Shoreline Permit, and a WDFW Hydraulics Permit (HPA). Other permits may be required and will be obtained as required.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.) [help]

WDFW maintains primitive roads on the Colockum Wildlife Area to provide public access and to protect streams from sediment delivery impacts. WDFW proposes to do road work at four specific sites to correct water related issues: one site on the Brewton Gulch Road, one site on Little Brushy Road, and two sites on Tekison Road. The specific sites and work to be performed are detailed below:

Site 1. (Tekison Road) Water originating from an impounded spring is currently seeping through the impoundment and over the roadway. Regular vehicle traffic on the roadway has created a deep mud hole resulting in unauthorized detours (off road) around this hazardous spot. To correct this problem WDFW crews will install three 18 inch diameter by 20 foot long culverts in this section of road to pass seepage water through the road. Underneath the culverts a layer of geotextile fabric will be placed, which is on top of a layer of crushed rock. On top of the geotextile fabric and around the culverts a layer of permeable crushed rock will be placed for bedding the culverts and surfacing the road. The length of road scheduled to be repaired is 100 feet. The crossing will provide a diffused pathway for water to go go under the road, keeping it separated from vehicle traffic.

Site 2. (Tekison Road) Approximately 200 feet down the road from Site 1 is an established ford. This poorly functioning, shallow, ford is allowing the seepage water from Site 1 and intermittent drainage water to run down the road rather than across it causing road erosion. To correct this issue, a 115 lineal foot section of road will be reshaped, covered with geotextile fabric, and receive a layer of rock. This rock will be graded to keep the water flow within the existing ford by increasing the vertical distance between the base of the ford and the surrounding road surface, and prevent road erosion during possible high water events. Work will be done in the dry as this drainage has intermittent flow.

Site 3. (Little Brushy Road) This existing ford through Tekison Creek has experienced recent erosion making vehicle passage difficult. To correct this issue the road bed will be graded to minimize the abrupt drop into the stream crossing and to keep the stream within the ford and also facilitate vehicle passage. Rock will be placed on the road surface above ordinary high water, to prevent future road erosion during high water events and minimize road sediment delivery. The undercut bank will be graded to allow for safe vehicle passage but no work will be done within the 25 foot road section that is the streambed where Tekison Creek flows through the ford. This site is completely dry during summer months.

Site 4. (Brewton Gulch Road) This site currently has a 36 inch diameter culvert installed to pass seasonal flows of an unnamed tributary to Tekison Creek. The culvert is undersized and overtops during peak flows. The 36 inch culvert will be removed and a 96 inch diameter culvert will be installed in the same location. Existing rock will be used to provide bedding for the new culvert and imported crushed rock will be used to repair and surface forty lineal feet of roadway over the culvert. The approach road to the culvert will be graded for approximately 200 feet to remove ruts and improve drainage.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist. [help]

The Colockum Wildlife Area is reached by driving south from Wenatchee on the Malaga/Alcoa Highway 13 to the junction of the Colockum Road and the Tarpiscan Road. Continue up Colockum Road towards Colockum Pass. Approximatelly 1 mile before Colockum Pass, take Brewton Road and follow it east to the Brewton Gulch Road to the four project sites. Local maps will be needed to reach the specific sites as the roads are primitive and unmarked.

All four sites are located within Kittitas County. The specific locations by site are:

Site 1 - Section 35, Township 20 North, Range 22 East;
Site 2 - Section 35, Township 20 North, Range 22 East;
Site 3 - Section 35, Township 20 North, Range 22 East;
Site 4 - Section 29, Township 20 North, Range 22 East.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS [help]

1. Earth

a. General description of the site [help]
(circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous,
other _____

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? [help]

Slopes do not exceed 45%.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils. [help]

The soil is classified as Weirman complex, very gravelly sandy loam, drained, 0 – 5 percent slopes.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. [help]

Yes. Some erosion of the road surface is evident.

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill. [help]

Purpose	Type	Cubic Yards
Road Surfacing	crushed rock	133 total
Road Grading	No additional fill	up to 400 lf

There will be no fill below OHW.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. [help]

Erosion could occur during ground disturbing activities. All upland disturbed areas will be protected in accordance with standard Best Management Practices as outlined in the WA Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington. Grading and construction activities will expose soil which may result in erosion, all construction and grading is taking place on existing road surfaces.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? [help]

There will a no increase in existing impervious surface as a result of this project.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: [help]

Construction work will be limited to only the extent needed to complete the road repairs.Work will be completed during dry months to prevent soils exposure to live water. Silt fence and straw wattles will be used to contain construction areas. All exposed soils will be covered in straw mulch and grass seeded to minimize potential for erosion due to wind or rain. Excavated and disturbed areas will be controlled by applying other appropriate BMPs (WA Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington) to minimize sediment loss and turbidity generation during excavation and grading.

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. [help]

Vehicle exhaust and dust from construction is expected. No long-term change in emissions is expected from the completed project.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. [help]

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: [help]

None.

3. **Water**

a. Surface Water: [help]

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type
and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into. [help]

Tekison Creek is next to the work area 1, 2, and runs through site 3. It is a seasonal creek at all work locations

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans. [help]

Work described in question A. 11. will occur within 200 feet of the shoreline of Tekison Creek except for Site 4.

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material. [help]

No fill material will be placed into or removed from surface waters.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [help]

No surface water diversions will be required.

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. [help]

Sites 1,2,and 4 does not lie within the 100 year floodplain. Site 3 is an existing ford crossing on Tekison Creek but is not within the floodplain beyond the stream banks.

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge. [help]

No.

b. Ground Water:

1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [help]

No groundwater will be withdrawn.

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve. [help]

No waste material will be discharged.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe. [help]

Runoff could be generated from rainfall events. This runoff would be either isolated from exposed soils by erosion control BMP's or captured within the work area with a sediment curtain and allowed to be infiltrated or clarified before release to surface waters.

All upland disturbed areas will be protected in accordance with standard Best Management Practices as outlined in the WA Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. [help]

Surface and ground waters will be protected by BMP's. Waste materials will not be used and not enter surface waters.

3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

Drainage patterns will not be altered.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

4. **Plants** [help]

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: [help]

_*___deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
_*___evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
_*___shrubs
_*___grass
_____pasture
_____crop or grain
_____ Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
_*___ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
_____water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
_____other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? [help]

A minimal amount of grass will be disturbed at site 1, site will be reseeded with native seed mix.

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [help]

Snowball cactus (Pediocactus nigrisnus) is listed as a rare plant on the Washington Natural Heritage Program list.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: [help]

No enhancement is planned as part of this project. Disturbed soils will be seeded and mulched with a native grass seed mix upon completion.

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

Knapweed and purple loosestrife infestations occur near the sites.

5. **Animals**

a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. Examples include: [help]

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [help]

Bull trout may occur in Tekison Creek near Site 3.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. [help]

Deer and elk use this area as part of a migration route.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: [help]

Work will occur during summer to avoid periods when species are using this area as winter range and sensitive to disturbance by equipment.

e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

None known.

6. **Energy and natural resources**

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc. [help]

No energy will be used.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. [help]

No.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: [help]

This project will not require the use of energy after completion therefore no energy conservation features where considered.

7. **Environmental health**

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe. [help]

1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

None known or anticipated.

2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

This area does not contain a potential source for hazardous chemicals.

3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.

No toxic or hazardous will be stored onsite. Diesel fuel will be delivered onsite in tanks mounted on vehicles.

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Emergency medical help may be needed if an injury occurs.

5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

Fueling of equipment will be done in upland staging areas isolated from surface waters.

b. **Noise**

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? [help]

This project will not be affected by noise.

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site. [help]

Increased short term noise levels are expected during construction. No long term change in noise levels are anticipated.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: [help]

Equipment used during construction will be in good operating condition and properly equipped with mufflers.

8. **Land and shoreline use**

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe. [help]

This site is currently used as a wildlife areas and open to public recreation.

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use? [help]

This area is not a working farmland or working forest.

1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:

This proposal will not affect or be affected in this manner.

c. Describe any structures on the site. [help]

Onsite structures include a primitive road and culverts.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? [help]

No.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? [help]

Rural.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? [help]

Unknown.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? [help]

Rural.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify. [help]

No.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? [help]

None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? [help]

None.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: [help]

None.

L. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: [help]

Consult with Kittitas County. Project is consistent with WDFW Columbia to Naneum Recreation and Management Plan.

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

No known issues exist that would make this proposal incompatible with agricultural or forest lands but opportunity will be given for comments during the shoreline permit process.

9. **Housing**

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [help]

N/A

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [help]

N/A

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: [help]

N/A

10. **Aesthetics**

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? [help]

There are no structures.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? [help]

No views will be obstructed.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: [help]

The self-contained toilet will come earth tone colors to blend into the existing environment.

11. **Light and glare**

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? [help]

No glare is anticipated.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? [help]

No.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? [help]

None known.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: [help]

None planned.

12. **Recreation**

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? [help]

Hunting, adventure driving, and wildlife viewing are the primary recreational opportunity in this area.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [help]

No, only temporary road closures may be necessary.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: [help]

Work will be done quickly and not during peak hunting season, traffic will be able to access around or through construction after only a brief delay.

13. **Historic and cultural preservation**

a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers located on or near the site? If so, specifically describe. [help]

No, there are no buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers located on or near the site.

b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources. [help]

While there is significant evidence of precontact and historic-era land use by Native American people in the region, no sites are recorded within the project area and a field survey did not result in the discovery of previously identified cultural resources.

c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc. [help]

The project is under review by the WDFW archaeologist. The determination of the probability for cultural resources to be located within the project area will be based upon review and analysis of past environmental and cultural contexts, previous cultural resource studies and sites, and field studies. Research conducted for this assessment included review of environmental and cultural contexts from a variety of sources including the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP), Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data (WISAARD), Bureau of Land Management's General Land Office (GLO) Survey Records database, HistoryLink, Historic Map Works, University of Washington's Digital Collection, and Washington State University's Early Washington Maps Collection, and fieldwork. Consultation with interested tribes has been initiated.

d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

All work will be done on established road surfaces and within existing fill. Any identified sensitive areas will not be disturbed. The project will operate under a WDFW Inadvertent Discovery Plan.

14. **Transportation**

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any. [help]

The sites are accessed by unmarked, primitive, unsurfaced roads with local names of Brewton Gulch Road, Tekison Road and Little Brushy Road all within the Colockum Wildlife Area

b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop? [help]

This site is not served by public transit. There is no public transit within 15 miles of the project site.

c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate? [help]

None

d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). [help]

Existing primitive 4WD roads will be graded for improved drainage.

e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. [help]

No.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates? [help]

No additional trips will be generated.

g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

No.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: [help]

None planned or needed.

15. **Public services**

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe. [help]

No.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. [help]

No measures planned.

16. **Utilities**

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: [help]
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other _____None

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed. [help]

N/A.

C. Signature [HELP]

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: Marty Peoples

Name of signee Marty Peoples

Position and Agency/Organization WDFW

Date Submitted: 2/1/15